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De capite 23 in universum satis iam supra disputavi neque praeter iteratam commendationem illius ὕστερον quod in τῶν δὲ ὕστερον ἔργων pro πρότερον a Thucydide scriptum esse persuasissimum equidem habeo atque in medium prolatam suspicionem 23. 6 rescribendum esse τοὺς Ἀθηναίους ἡγοῦμαι μεγάλους γεγενημένους· φόβον <γὰρ> παρέχοντας τοῖς Λακεδαιμονίοις ἀναγκάσαι ἐς τὸ πολεμεῖν ne verbulum quidem amplius addam, sed longae finis chartae hic erit.¹

MORTIMER LAMSON EARLE.

NECROLOGY.

MORTIMER LAMSON EARLE.

October 14, 1864—September 26, 1905.

MORTIMER LAMSON EARLE, Professor of Classical Philology in Columbia University, died very unexpectedly on September 26 of typhoid fever, contracted in Sicily after a summer spent in Dalmatia, Greece and Crete.

Professor Earle was born in New York City on October 14, 1864. He was prepared for college chiefly at the Ashland Public School in East Orange, New Jersey, and entered Columbia in 1882. At the very beginning of his course he showed a marked predilection for linguistic and literary studies. His chief love was for Greek and Latin, but he acquired also an unusually good knowledge of French, German and Italian, and gained considerable proficiency in Sanskrit during his last year as an undergraduate and his first as a graduate student. The thoroughness so characteristic of him in later years made itself manifest in various ways while he was still an undergraduate, and the writer, then in his first years as a college instructor, remembers

¹ Sero intellexi 11. 2 hunc ad modum scribendum esse: περιουσίαν δ' εἰ ἦλθον ἔχοντες τροφῆς καὶ ὄντες ἄνθρωποι ἀνευ ληιστείας καὶ γεωργίας ξυνεχῶς τὸν πόλεμον διέφερον, ραϊδίως ἂν (δὴ?) μάχῃ κρατοῦντες—οἱ γε καὶ οὐχ ἄνθρωποι ἀλλὰ μέρει τῷ αἰεὶ παρόντες ἀντίχον (ἀντέσχον?)—πολιορκίαι ἂν προσκαθεζόμενοι ἐν ἐλάσσονι τε χρόνῳ καὶ ἀπονώτερον τὴν Τροίαν (τὴν πόλιν?) εἶλον, i. e. abundantia autem si venissent instructi commeatus et coniuncti sine latrocinio et agricultura perpetuo id bellum gessissent, facile proelio superiores facti—quippe qui etiam non coniuncti sed cum parte <tantum> aliqua semper praesentes <tamen> restiterint—obsidione instituta et breviori temporis spatio et minore cum labore Troiam cepissent. εἶλον quod fuit post κρατοῦντες et δ' post πολιορκίαι primus, quod sciam, damnavit Krueger; τῷ indefinitum praebet scholion; παρόντες ipse detexi. Loco eminente positum et cum intentione vocis proferendum illud ραϊδίως.

many a discussion over points of interpretation with the keen-minded Freshman who would not take anything on the dictum of his teacher, but demanded proof of all assertions. Graduating in 1886, with high honors, Mr. Earle was awarded the fellowship in letters, tenable for three years. At that time a certain amount of teaching was demanded of the fellows, and Mr. Earle served a thorough apprenticeship in 1886-7 and in 1888-9. The intervening year he spent in Greece, as a member of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, which was for that year under the directorship of Professor Augustus C. Merriam. Mr. Earle's later studies had been under the special guidance of Professor Merriam, and it was a great satisfaction to both of them that the relations formed here could be continued in Greece. The School undertook during that year excavations near Marathon, to determine the site of the ancient Ikaria, and at Sicyon on the Gulf of Corinth. Mr. Earle participated in both of these, and was in actual charge of the latter, having the good fortune to uncover an interesting theatre and to find in the orchestra a statue of Dionysos, now preserved in the Museum at Athens. Incidentally, during his stay in Greece, he gained a knowledge of the modern language, in several dialects, such as very few foreigners, even among those who spend many years in Greece, ever acquire.

He received the degree of doctor of philosophy from Columbia in 1889. In that year Barnard College was opened, and the instruction in Greek to be given there was entrusted to him. No selection more fortunate for Barnard College could have been made. Though young in years and in temperament, he was so mature in steadiness of purpose and in persistence of devotion to an ideal that he inspired his students with his own enthusiasm for honesty and thoroughness of work. It was an example for which Barnard College could not be too thankful. His scrupulous exactness, his unsparing condemnation of superficiality and showiness, were invaluable in those early days when it would have been so easy to make of the new college a sort of higher "academy for young ladies".

In 1895 Mr. Earle accepted a call to Bryn Mawr College as associate professor of Greek and Latin, where he remained for three years. Returning to Barnard in 1898, on an appointment as lecturer, which was universally felt to be only a means of holding him until a chair could be established for him, he was made professor of classical philology in 1899, when Barnard entered into closer relations with the University, and a seat in the Faculty of Philosophy was assigned to him. From that time until his death he gave instruction to graduate students at Columbia as well as to undergraduates at Barnard; in particular, the conduct of the Greek seminar was often in his hands. The enrichment of the opportunities offered to our graduate students by his co-operation was inestimably great, and the University as a whole is a loser by his death no less than Barnard College.

As a scholar, Professor Earle occupied a position almost unique among living Americans. While a well-rounded classicist, with actual achievement in archaeological work to look back upon, his chosen field was discussion and interpretation of the text of Greek and Latin authors. With the palaeography of Greek and Latin manuscripts and with the labors of earlier scholars in editing and interpretation he had an extraordinary acquaintance, perhaps unmatched in this country. He was in constant correspondence with classical scholars here and abroad, who delighted to ask his opinions on disputed points. He was a voracious reader, and his memory was unusually retentive. His independence of judgment often led him, particularly in his earlier years, to propose emendations and interpretations which gained little acceptance, and which often did not approve themselves to his later and riper judgment; but he had no more severe critic than himself, and his real contributions to the better understanding of Greek and Latin literature were very many. A long list of such has come from his pen, and they have been published in many learned periodicals in America and in Europe. His larger works are three: an edition of the *Alcestis* of Euripides, published in 1894; one of the *Oedipus Tyrannus* of Sophocles, in 1901; and one of Euripides' *Medea*, in 1904. The dramatists were perhaps Professor Earle's favorites among Greek authors, though he had made extensive special studies in Plato and Aristotle, and the last work of his pen was an elaborate study of the composition of Book I of Thucydides' History, which is published in this number of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILOLOGY.

With such an equipment, and such a promise of future achievement, Professor Earle was taken from us at the early age of forty. The journey from which he had expected so much pleasure and profit was destined to be his undoing. Truly one must say with the poet whom he loved exceedingly and to whose words he had often given clearer interpretation than had his predecessors:

λείπομαι ἐν τε τύχαις θνατῶν καὶ ἐν ἔργμασι λείσσω.

But his friendship and his example we who knew him and loved him will ever hold as a precious memory.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

E. D. PERRY.

NOTE.—The foregoing obituary notice is repeated with some changes from that written for the *Columbia University Quarterly* and printed in the number for December, 1905.

E. D. P.